Management in New Delhi on 26—28th April, 1994. At the end of workshop, an MoU has been signed between AGENCE DE L' ENVIRONMENT ET DE LA MAITRISE DE L' ENERGIE (ADEME) and HUDCO for developing the potential of HUDCO in the field of solid waste management and to identify integrated city level projects where pilot projects could be set up.

Unutilised Desert Land in Gujarat

3825. SHRIMATI URMILA BEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a vast unutilised land in Kutch desert in Gujarat state;

(b) if so, whether Government have any plan to have a large scale plantation in Kutch Desert area in the State;

(c) whether there is any demand to develop a large scale foundation by some private agency on Iserali system;

(d) if so, whether Government will encourage the agency and allot the land and provide them the due facilities; and

(e) the names of the agencies who have offered to undertake the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Financial assistance is given to the State Government of Gujarat under Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) in seven blocks namely Abdasa, Anjar, Bhachav, Bhuj, Lakhapat, Nakhatram and Rapar of Kutch district in Gujarat.

(c) No proposal in this regard has been received by this Ministry.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

Export of Endangered Species

3826. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times of 30th May, 1994 to the effect that even the endangered species in wild plants, herbs and timbers have been put back on the export list; and

(b) whether Government will reconsider taking these out of the export list in order to protect our genetic heritage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Delhi edition of the Economic Times of 30 May, 1994 does not reflect news to the effect. However, critically endangared species of plants, herbs and timbers have been put under prohibited list of exports. This is being continuously reviewed and revised on the export report of the Botanical Survey of India and State Forest Departments.

Clearance of Pending Projects for Karnataka

3827. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six project proposals for environmental protection, forestry development and wildlife preservation aggregating a total outlay of more than Rs. 525.00 crores, submitted by Government of Karnataka, are pending with the Central Government for study and clearance;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of each project and the outlay of assistance sought; and

(c) the progress made on evaluation and clearance of each of these proposals and the likely time for completion of evaluation studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). The details of the pending project proposals for environmental protection, forestry development and wildlife preservation submitted by Government of Karnataka alongwith progress made on evaluation and clearance for each of the projects is given in the enclosed statement.